Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/08/31 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600320408-3

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Soviet Zone Germany

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

SUBJECT Economic - Metallurgy

HOW PUBLISHED Semimonthly periodical

DATE DIST. 29 Jun 1950

WHERE PUBLISHED Berlin

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE PUBLISHED 1 Oct 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE German

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C., 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Die Wirtschaft, No 19, 1949.

NEW ROLLING MILL IN EAST GERMANY

Five rolling mills were returned to Germany by the Soviet Union in February 1949 in order to rebuild the peacetime economy. Two of them, one light section mill and one heavy plate mill, were set up in Kirchmoeser (Sachsen).

The Kirchmoeser plant had previously housed a railroad repair plant, and before that, the Kirchmoeser Imperial Powder Factory. Under the Hitler regime the railroad repair plant was evacuated to Kharkov and a tank factory built in its place. The Soviet occupation forces used the plant area as a repair shop after 1945. When the German Economic Administration was looking for a large workshop which could house the rolling mill, the Soviet Military Administration readily offered the Kirchmoeser plant area with its suitable workshop.

Plant construction started on 23 February 1949, and on 15 September operations started in the light section mill. Production of heavy plate will start as soon as the electric motors are installed.

The nearby lake can be used for transportation by ship, but it also causes subsoil water conditions which have to be overcome.

The workshop, 200 meters long and 50 meters wide, had to be shored up so it could withstand the increased weight of the rolling mills. Fourteen support foundations had to be secured, partly by concrete and brickwork 8 meters deep. Seventy wells had to be drilled to eliminate the ground water.

The 1,300 tons of machine parts used for assembling the rolling mills came from Voikov-Kerch (USSR). Another 123 tons, or 599 individual parts, had to be constructed in the Eastern Zone.

The Soviet Union supplied the light section mill with all supplementary parts, the cooling trough (one of the most up-to-date installations in Soviet Zone Germany), and the heavy plate mill. These installations were formerly

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI	

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/08/31 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600320408-3

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/08/31 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600320408-3

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

part of a Sachsen armament factory which was built in 1937. The billet furnace for the light section mill, a slabbing furnace for the heavy plate mill, an installation of five small generators, an installation of large generators, the blower house, the cooling tower, the cooling trough, cooling pumps, the machine house, the coal bin, etc., were produced in Soviet Zone Germany. A few hundred meters of rails and nine switches had to be relaid, and old rails had to be repaired. While 4,000 meters of pipes for gas, air, and water have been installed, a power plant must still be built.

An average of 1,100 workers, and at times as many as 1,800, were employed in setting up the plant. About 1.5 million work-hours were put in. Construction was carried out by the people-owned enterprise "Maerkische Bauunion" and by the people-owned enterprise "Mittelelbe." Contests were carried out to have the foundations put in ahead of schedule.

The numerous difficulties were overcome only by the concerted effort of the employees, the administrations, and mass organizations; e.g., in 27 voluntary actions, 2,748 members of mass organizations put in 22,000 man-hours. Particularly active were the Free German Youth (FDJ), the Socialist Unity Party (SED), and the People's Police.

In the meantime, initial deliveries of badly needed round iron bars have been made to the Brandenburg-West railroad repair shop, to the Lippendorf People-Owned Enterprise, and to Dresden iron dealers.

- E N D -

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/08/31 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000600320408-3